

a¹ No. 5,975,893, which claimed the benefit of provisional application no. 60/050,342, filed on June 20, 1997. The full disclosures of each of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 19-21, and 23-27, as follows. Please cancel claims 3, 10-18, 22, and 28-37. Please replace the set of claims currently on file with the following set of claims.

a² 1 1. (Amended) A method for producing a dental positioning appliance
2 which is removably attachable to at least one dental feature to effect or enhance dental
3 positioning, said method comprising:
4 providing a mold of dental features wherein the mold has at least one
5 attachment device mounted or formed on a surface of the mold;
6 forming the dental appliance over the mold with the attachment device;
7 and
8 removing the dental appliance from the mold, wherein the appliance has a
9 receptacle corresponding to the attachment device and tooth receiving cavities
10 corresponding to the dental features of the mold;
11 providing additional structures in the mold of dental features, wherein the
12 structures provide a guide to demarcate a portion of the appliance in a desired location;
13 and
14 altering a portion of the appliance demarcated by the structure.

1 2. (As filed) A method as in claim 1, wherein the method further
2 comprises:
3 providing additional structures on the mold of dental features, wherein the
4 appliance has protrusions corresponding to the structures; and
5 removing the appliance from the mold utilizing the protrusions, whereby
6 removal is aided.

Please cancel claim 3.

a³ 1 ~~3~~ 4. (Amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the altering step
2 comprises cutting out the portion of the appliance demarcated by the structure, whereby a
3 window is created to expose the underlying dental feature.

1 5. (As filed) A method for producing a digital model, said method
2 comprising:
3 providing a digital model of at least one dental feature;
4 providing a digital model of at least one attachment device; and
5 positioning the digital model of the attachment device on the digital model
6 of the dental feature to produce a combined computerized model.

1 6. (As filed) A method for producing a dental positioning appliance
2 which is removably attachable to at least one dental feature to effect or enhance dental
3 positioning, said method comprising:
4 providing a combined digital model of at least one dental feature having at
5 least one attachment device;
6 producing a mold from the combined digital model, wherein the mold has
7 the attachment device on a surface thereof;
8 forming a dental positioning appliance over the mold; and
9 removing the appliance from the mold, wherein the appliance has a
10 receptacle corresponding to the attachment device and cavities corresponding to the
11 dental features.

1 7. (As filed) A method as in claim 6, wherein the method further
2 comprises:
3 providing a digital model of an additional structure;
4 positioning the digital model of the additional structure on the digital
5 model of dental features, wherein the appliance has protrusions corresponding to the
6 structures; and
7 removing the appliance from the mold utilizing the protrusions, whereby
8 removal is aided.

1 8. (As filed) A method as in claim 6, wherein the method further
2 comprises:
3 providing a digital model of an additional structure;
4 positioning the digital model of the additional structure on the digital
5 model of dental features, wherein the structures provide a guide to demarcate a portion of
6 the appliance in a desired location; and

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7 altering a portion of the appliance demarcated by the structure.

1 9. (As filed) A method as in claim 8, wherein the altering step
2 comprises cutting out the portion of the appliance demarcated by the structure, whereby a
3 window is created to expose the underlying dental feature.

Please cancel claims 10-18.

1 ²⁴ ~~9~~¹⁹. (Amended) A method for moving teeth, said method comprising:
2 securing an attachment device on a dental feature;
3 removably positioning a first dental positioning appliance over the dental
4 feature wherein the appliance comprises an elastic polymeric shell having a cavity which
5 receives the dental feature and a receptacle which receives the attachment device; and
6 removably positioning at least a second dental positioning appliance over
7 the dental feature, wherein the second dental positioning appliance comprises an
8 elastomeric shell having a cavity which receives the dental feature and a receptacle which
9 receives the attachment device, wherein at least one of the receptacle and the cavity has a
10 different configuration than that of the first dental positioning appliance.

1 ~~10~~²⁰. (Amended) A method as in claim ~~19~~⁹, wherein the appliances apply
2 repositioning force to the attachment device.

1 ~~11~~¹¹. (Amended) A method as in claim ~~19~~¹⁰, wherein the appliances are
2 anchored with the attachment device and apply a repositioning force to another dental
3 feature.

Please cancel claim 22.

²⁵ 1 ~~12~~²³. (Amended) A method as in claim ~~19~~⁹, further comprising
2 removably positioning at least a third dental positioning appliance over the dental feature,
3 wherein the third dental positioning appliance comprises an elastomeric shell having a
4 cavity which receives the dental feature and a receptacle which receives the attachment
5 device, wherein at least one of the receptacle and the cavity has a different configuration
6 than that of the first and second dental positioning appliances.

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